Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know the additional amount that Government had to spend as a result of these alterations?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: The contract was given, in the first instance, for 96,000 rupees, and the final payment made was Rs. 1,15,965. But at the same time I may inform the House that materials to the value of Rs. 10,000 and more are still available for use by Government.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know the source of information for Government regarding the capacity of the company to do works connected with structural engineering?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: I have informed the House of the several works they were engaged in and how satisfactorily they executed those works.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know whether the Government got information about the several works done by the company prior to admitting this question?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: The Government knew that the company was competent to take up such work. In view of the several interpellations raised on the subject here and elsewhere the Government thought it desirable to ascertain the specific items of work which they had executed.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: How did Government know that they were efficient in the execution of work without ascertaining and collecting the necessary data?

President: Next Question.

Lightning havoc to the public offices building at Parur.

3. ***Mr. N. V. Chacko** (*Parur, Kunnatnad and Muvattupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Government building in which the Taluk Cutcherry, the Police Station, the Sub-Registrar's Office and the Magistrate's Court are housed at Parur was struck by a recent lightning;

(*b*) the damages done to the building;

(*c*) the cost of the building;

(*d*) whether the buildings was protected by lightning conductors;

(*e*) whether the water pipes attached to the building were conductive or detrimental to its safety?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Building and Irrigation*): (*a*) No; but some damage was caused to th building by storm on 15-9-1113.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. G. B. E. Truscott.]

(*b*)* A portion of the roof was damaged, some plastering cracked here and there and some window glass panes broken.

(*c*) Not traceable from the available records.

(*d*) No.

(*e*) Not detrimental.

Mr. N. V. Chacko : May I know the nature of the damages done to the building? Is it a crack in the building or in the plastering work?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott : The cracks are on the plaster; there is no report that the walls are cracked.

Diminution of water in the Periyar river.

4. ***Mr. N. V. Chacko :** Will the Government be pleased to state;

(*a*) whether any diminution of water is noticed in the Periyar river at Alwaye during successive summers for the last five years; and

(*b*) if so, the causes and reasons for it?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Due to comparatively less rain fall.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar (*Parur Kunnatnad and Muvattupuzha* cum *Devicolam*) : May I know whether any diminution of water is caused by the yearly silting up of the river?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott : I do no think so.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : May I know whether the member has ascertained that diminution of water was not caused by silting?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott : I do not think that the silting up of the river would contribute in any way to diminution of water supply in it.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : May I know whether the member is aware that people go to Alwaye during summer and stay there considering it as a place of health resort?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott : Yes, Sir.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : Is the member aware that people find it very difficult to stay there when there is less water in the river?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott : No, Sir.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : May I know whether the Government are spending any amounts for removing the silt in the river?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott : No.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly